

## **ABSTRACT**

A method and an apparatus to provide optical equipment protection have been disclosed. In one embodiment, the method includes splitting an incoming optical signal into a first and a second optical signals, sending the first and the second optical signals to a first and a second equipments in an optical network node, respectively, the second equipment being a protection module for the first equipment, monitoring a first and a second outgoing optical signals from the first and second equipments, and declaring a failure of the optical network node if only one of the first and the second outgoing optical signals has failed. Other embodiments have been claimed and described.